



# MSAPC ADVISORY CIRCULAR

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

OFFICE OF AIR AND WASTE MANAGEMENT ●

MOBILE SOURCE AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

A/C NO. 3-2

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SUBJECT: Intermediate Durability Testing and Emission-Data Vehicle Testing for 1978 and Later Model Year Light-Duty Vehicles and Trucks

## A. Purpose

The purpose of this Advisory Circular is to revise the requirements for testing of durability and emission-data vehicles at EPA's Ann Arbor test facility. Advisory Circular No. 3-1 is applicable to 1975 through 1977 model year light-duty vehicles and light-duty trucks. Advisory Circular No. 3-2 is applicable to 1978 and later model year light-duty vehicles and light-duty trucks.

## B. Background

1. On June 4, 1973 (38 FR 14682), EPA promulgated regulations which changed the durability vehicle test points from every 4,000 miles to every 5,000 miles. Noting this change, Advisory Circular No. 3-1 specified a new schedule for confirmatory testing at EPA's Ann Arbor test facility.

2. Many manufacturers are extending the mileage interval between tuneups and some manufacturers have only one tuneup late in the 50,000 miles required for durability testing. Currently under most recommended tuneup schedules, testing at EPA after each tuneup and at 50,000 miles tends to unevenly distribute EPA test results among the higher mileage durability data points. Additionally, EPA has determined that sufficient confirmation of a durability vehicle's emission levels will be provided by testing at EPA once at low mileage and once at high mileage. Furthermore, adopting such a confirmatory testing policy will normally reduce testing of a durability vehicle at EPA with a resultant cost savings to both the manufacturer and EPA. Therefore, EPA will test at 5,000 miles and at 50,000 miles those durability vehicles which are scheduled to be tested more than once at EPA's facilities.

## C. Applicability

The provisions of this Advisory Circular are effective immediately and are applicable, beginning with the 1978 model year, to light-duty vehicles and light-duty trucks.

D. Schedule for Durability Vehicle Testing at the Ann Arbor Test Facility

1. Domestic Engine Families with Projected Sales of 100,000 Units or More.

a. For domestic engine families with projected sales of 100,000 units or more, EPA intends to test at its Ann Arbor facility, pursuant to 40 CFR 86.078-29(a), each durability vehicle at 5,000 miles and 50,000 miles. If any scheduled maintenance is performed at 5,000 miles the EPA test will be conducted after the maintenance.

b. In accordance with 40 CFR 86.078-29(a), Testing by the Administrator, EPA may require additional durability vehicle testing at its Ann Arbor facility.

2. Durability Vehicles - Domestic Engine Families with Projected Sales Between 10,000 and 100,000 Units and all Foreign Engine Families with Projected Sales Greater Than 10,000 Units.

For domestic engine families with projected sales between 10,000 and 100,000 units and all foreign engine families with projected sales greater than 10,000 units, EPA intends to test at its Ann Arbor facility each durability vehicle at the 50,000-mile test point only.

3. Durability Vehicles - All Engine Families with Projected Sales of 10,000 Units or Less.

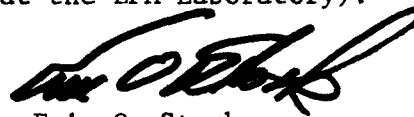
Durability vehicles representing engine families with projected sales of 10,000 units or less will generally not be subjected to confirmatory testing by EPA.

E. Schedule for Emission-Data Vehicle Testing at EPA Test Facilities.

EPA intends to test at its Ann Arbor facility all emission-data vehicles representing vehicles to be sold at low altitude. Selected emission-data vehicles representing vehicles to be sold at high-altitude will be tested at a designated high-altitude facility. All emission tests will be performed at the 4,000-mile test point.

F. Procedures

The EPA testing requirement that applies to intermediate mileage points of durability vehicles, as discussed in Section D.1 above, represents the maximum testing that EPA will normally perform on 1978 and later model year vehicles. EPA recognizes that it is necessary for EPA to give a quick turn-around to durability vehicles subject to this testing. Therefore, manufacturers are requested to schedule vehicles in accordance with Advisory Circular No. 54 (Scheduling Testing of Light-Duty Vehicles at the EPA Laboratory).



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